

EARLY LEARNING INSTITUTE TENTATIVE
PRESENTATIONS updated
3.28.08

Student Engagement Strategies

Presenter: Megan Reynolds

Audience: All classroom teachers

Description:

Megan will present different strategies that teachers can use to keep their students engaged during lessons throughout the day. She will give examples of how to plan for use of strategies, and how to incorporate them into everyday teaching.

Participant Outcomes:

Participants will:

- Learn multiple student engagement strategies
- Learn to integrate student engagement strategies into everyday teaching

Presenter Information:

Megan Reynolds has been a full day kindergarten teacher for the past four years, two of those years under Reading First. She has presented as a guest speaker at the 2006 Reading First Summer Institute and was the keynote speaker and presenter for the Full Day Kindergarten: Unfold the Possibilities Conference in November 2007.

Contact Information: mreynolds@liberty.k12.az.us

Teaching Print Awareness through Print Referencing

Presenter: Mary Towle-Harmon

Co-Presenter: Anthony D. Koutsoftas

Audience: Preschool (general and special education)

Description:

Print awareness refers to a child's understanding of the relationship between the form and purpose of print. Skills include conventions of print, recognizing words and letters and alphabet knowledge. Educators will be provided with specific techniques to teach print awareness skills, within the context of book reading sessions, to students.

Participant Outcomes:

1. The participants will identify five print concepts that can be taught within the context of shared book reading.
2. The participants will demonstrate print referencing behaviors, within the context of shared book reading, to teach print awareness.

Presenter Information:

Mary Towle-Harmon is a speech pathologist and doctoral student at ASU. Her research focus is children with language impairments. Presentations: AzAEYC & American Speech & Hearing Association.

Contact Information: Mary.towleharmon@asu.edu

Developing a Positive School Culture to Promote Inclusive Practices

Presenter: Beth Meyerowitz

Co-Presenters: Teresa Cummings, Jennifer Grondin

Audience: All.

Description:

Building a positive school culture for inclusion is key to a successful program. This session will address the key components in a positive inclusive culture and aid participants in assessing and improving their own settings. School teams are encouraged to attend.

Participant Outcomes:

Participants will be able to:

- identify key components in a school culture conducive to inclusive practices
- Assess their current program regarding these components
- begin to develop a plan to build a positive inclusive culture at their site

Presenter Information:

Beth Meyerowitz, CCC- SLP, serves as Coordinator of an inclusive preschool enrolling over 200 in Vail, AZ. She is completing her Ed.D in Education Leadership. Beth presented at last year's conference.

Teresa Cummings has been with the Vail School District for 8 years as an Early Childhood Special Education Teacher. She received her MA from the University of Arizona. Prior to working as a classroom teacher, Terry worked as an Early Intervention specialist and Parent Educator for 12 years.

Jennifer Grondin has worked in the Vail School District for 6 years. She has an extensive history working with children with disabilities, including teaching at the

Perkins School for the Blind. Jennifer currently serves on Vail's Autism Team and works closely with the district's Assistive Technology Team.

Contact Information: meyerowitzb@vail.k12.az.us

Character Education in the Classroom

Presenter: Holly Cawthon

Audience: All

Description:

Teaching and modeling good character to children is vital to their success in school and life! Through a variety of hands-on, interactive group activities and discussion, this presentation will provide specific lessons and strategies that teach good character. Information and resources regarding free character education materials will also be given.

Participant Outcomes:

Participants will receive:

- Definition and purpose of character education in school setting
- Minimum of 5 book titles/ poems and corresponding activities to teach character
- Ideas for classrooms / education centers to promote character
- Free materials and online resources to use with students and parents

Presenter Information:

Holly Cawthon has held director positions within youth-serving non-profit organizations, university service-learning programs, literacy instruction, statewide training, standards-alignment and grants management in character education.

Contact Information: Holly.cawthon@azed.gov

Writing for All Students

Presenter: Jena Akard

Audience: All: preschool-kindergarten (general and special education) teachers and administrators who are looking for new ways to promote writing instruction

Description:

If you have ever struggled with teaching writing and have questions about how to help your whole class succeed, Writer's Workshop could provide you with answers. This session will help you to assess students' abilities and identify writing strategies (teaching points) for individual students, groups, and for different genres.

Participants Outcomes:

Participants will:

- Identify teaching points for individual student's writing (assessment)
- Identify teaching points for different genres
- Identify how to best make Writer's Workshop fit your classroom's needs

Presenter Information:

Jena Akard is in her 6th year of teaching in the public school system and has worked for two of Arizona school districts, Madison and Paradise Valley. She has attended two of Columbia University's Teacher's College Writer's Workshop Conferences. She currently teaches kindergarten and is a K-2 Writing Coach.

Contact Information: jakard@pvschools.net

Using Children's Literature, Role Play and Center-Based Activities to Promote Young Children's Social Emotional Development

Presenter: Nancy Perry, Ph.D.

Audience: Preschool (general and special)

Description:

Learn how to use children's literature, role play and center-based activities to help children learn to recognize and express feelings, make friends, control impulsive urges, and solve social problems. Example lesson plans aligned to the social-emotional and literacy strands of Arizona Early Learning Standards will be provided to each participant.

Participant Outcomes:

Participants will learn how to enhance children's social and emotional competencies and literacy skills through an integrated and enriched curriculum.

Participants will learn to identify social emotional concepts and vocabulary in children's literature and how to use each in planning lessons and center-based activities designed to teach social-emotional skills.

Presenter Information:

Nancy Perry is an Assistant Professor at Arizona State University. She has twenty-years of classroom experience as an early childhood educator and conducts research on curricular implementation in early childhood settings.

Contact Information: Nancy.Perry@asu.edu

Kindergarten Transition

Presenter: Amy Corriveau

Audience: Preschool and Kindergarten teams

Description:

Participant Outcomes:

Presenter Information:

Contact Information: amy.corriveau@azed.gov

Engineering the Classroom to Decrease Problematic Behaviors (2-Part)

Presenter: Susanne Appleman, MA, CCC

Audience: All

Description:

The goals for young children in preschool classrooms are to increase skills across multiple domains (e.g., language, cognitive, motor, and social). When children use materials inappropriately or do not interact well, we consider them as having a behavior problem. Research has shown that in dealing with challenging behaviors with young children, prevention should be the goal.

Participant Outcomes:

Participants will:

- Learn new techniques to manage behavior issues
- Learn how to structure and design an appropriate classroom

Presenter Information:

Susie Appleman is a Speech-Language Pathologist who worked in private practice for over 10 years. Mrs. Appleman works with preschoolers and school-aged children who have a variety of needs.

Contact Information: dappleman2@cox.net

The Amazing Brain/Positive Guidance and Behavior

Presenter: Sharon Raban

Audience: Preschool-Grade 3

Description:

Find out more about current brain research and amazing brain facts. Learn about the implications of this research for child care centers, preschool, and early learning environments. Also learn how the new brain research can establish positive guidance of behavior and set children up for success.

Participant Outcomes:

Participants will:

- become aware of the current brain facts.
- learn the implications of brain research for proper development of young children.
- learn how to apply the new brain research to affectively guide the behavior of young children

Presenter Information:

Sharon Raban is the preschool Special Education Director for St. Johns School District, is a trainer for the Blake Foundation, and is a registered S*CCEEDS Trainer.

Contact Information: sraban@sjusd.net

Social Emotional Teaching Strategies

Presenter: Beth Meyerowitz

Co-Presenters: Teresa Cummings, Jennifer Grondin

Audience: Preschool, kindergarten teachers

Description:

An important role for early childhood teachers is to facilitate social emotional development so children have the skills needed to be successful in school. These include the ability to solve problems, communicate emotions appropriately

and effectively, and build friendships. This training focuses on effective strategies for teaching these skills to children.

Participant Outcomes:

Participants will be able to:

- Facilitate the development of friendship skills
- Teach problem solving
- Teach children to recognize and express emotions

Presenter Information:

Beth Meyerowitz is the Coordinator of Preschool Special Education Services for the Vail School District. She directs an inclusive program serving over 200 preschoolers with and without disabilities.

Teresa Cummings: Terry has been with the Vail School District for 8 years as an Early Childhood Special Education Teacher. She received her MA from the University of Arizona. Prior to working as a classroom teacher, Terry worked as an Early Intervention specialist and Parent Educator for 12 years.

Jennifer Grondin: Jennifer has worked in the Vail School District for 6 years. She has an extensive history working with children with disabilities, including teaching at the Perkins School for the Blind. Jennifer currently serves on the Autism Team and works closely with the district Assistive Technology Team.

Contact Information: meyerowitzb@vail.k12.az.us

Thoughtful Teaching with a Developmental Sequence in Mind

Presenter: Debbie Garza

Co-Presenter: Ana Trejo

Audience: Preschool, Head Start

Description:

This workshop is designed to guide and support the preschool educator through the developmental approach to curriculum, which is dependent on the learner's developmental status. Participants will learn to respond to individual needs, interests, and strengths to provide relevant and meaningful learning experiences.

Participant Outcomes:

Participants will:

- make connections on how to connect assessment to curriculum planning.
- learn to link behavior levels with classroom strategies and activities
- learn how to create a learning environment based on understanding age-related child development

Presenter Information:

Ana Trejo and Debbie Garza are Program Assistants for the City of Phoenix Head Start Program. Ana has a MA in ECE.

Contact Information: debbie.garza@phoenix.gov, debbie.garza@yahoo.com, ana.trejo@phoenix.gov, anamtrejo@gmail.com

Playing with Purpose: Guiding Children to Greatness (2-Part)

Presenter: Enrique C. Feldman

Audience: Preschool, Kindergarten, 1st Grade and 2nd Grade, Administrators and Parents

Description:

Experience playing in purposeful ways using music, movement, brain games, breathing and relaxation to improve attitude, and learning in all areas. Experience how breathing and relaxation can help children be more calm, focused and ready to learn. Experience certain kinds of music to improve the learning in your classroom.

Participant Outcomes:

Participants will leave the session:

- being able to use breathing and relaxation in play-based games with children in order to help children improve their focus and as a way to learn about any given academic domain.
- understanding how to use music while reading, while mimicking the music with their voice in terms of volume, inflection, and pace.
- understanding what kinds of music to use for specific learning situations.
- Understanding how to connect literacy to movement.

Presenter Information:

A 2-time Grammy nominated artist/composer, Enrique Feldman has presented at 5 consecutive NAEYC conferences, state conferences, including the 1st and 2nd Early Learning Conferences in Arizona.

Contact Information: ftubahank@msn.com and info@famefoundation.org

Curriculum Mapping in Kindergarten

Presenter: Nancy Perry, Ph.D.

Audience: Kindergarten teachers

Description:

Participants will unpack the AZ Academic Standards for Kindergarten and create a project-based, integrated, curriculum map to ensure that children have various opportunities to meet the Arizona standards throughout the school year.

Participant Outcomes:

Participants will learn to

- unpack the Arizona Kindergarten Academic Standards;
- create standards-based integrated projects;
- develop a year-long curriculum map to guide instruction.

Presenter Information:

Nancy Perry is an Assistant Professor at Arizona State University. She has twenty-years of classroom experience as an early childhood educator and conducts research on curricular implementation in early childhood classrooms, Pre-K through Grade 3.

Contact Information: Nancy.Perry@asu.edu

Customized Intentional Instruction using Intellitools Classroom Suite

Presenter: Michelle Godfrey

Co-Presenter: Nikki Bartel

Audience: Preschool (General and Special Education)

Description:

Participants will see a highly interactive, individually customized circle time routine with greetings, weather, calendar, music and movement activities, academic concepts in the areas of phonics, phonemic awareness, number awareness, and more. The structure is provided through Intellitools Classroom Suite and can be paired with an interactive white board for full effect.

Participant Outcomes:

Participants will:

- understand the value of highly interactive instruction
- see how easy the circle time activity is to use and customize

Presenter Information:

Michelle and Nikki teach developmental preschool in the Pendergast School District. They have a combined 25 years in early childhood education.

Contact Information: godfrey@pesd92.org

First Things First: Statewide Initiatives for Quality Improvement

Presenters: Judy Walruff, Ph.D., Sandy Foreman, and Jennifer Johnson

Audience: Preschool teachers and administrators, interested others are welcome

Description:

Presenters will provide updated information about strategic plans, quality initiatives, and the statewide and regional directions. The work represents First Things First and its mission to develop a system of quality, accessible, early childhood development and health services for the children of Arizona ages zero through five.

Participant Outcomes:

Participants will

- Increase knowledge of statewide initiatives of First Things First.
- Present opportunities for program participation in statewide initiatives.
- Develop understanding of the benefits of First Things First systems for professionals, programs, children and families.

Presenter Information:

The panel has over 90 years combined experience in early childhood and health programs, advocacy, and policy – in diverse organizations including Southwest Human Development, ASU, Children’s Action Alliance, The Governor’s School Readiness Board, and the Flinn Foundation.

Contact Information: Jennifer.Johnson@azecdh.gov

Move Into Learning with Brain Gym® (2-Part)

Presenter: Kathy Brown, M.Ed.

Audience: All

Description:

Experience how Brain Gym® movements can enhance physical coordination, cognitive agility, focus, and sense of personal ease as they activate a “whole-brain” state. Explore how Brain Gym smoothes out “glitches” in developmental

(infant reflex) stages, builds the physical skills for learning readiness, and provides access to each learner's innate ability.

Participant Outcomes:

Participants will:

- experience the relationship between movement, release of stress, and cognitive ability
- learn how Brain Gym movements support developmental readiness for learning
- participate in “play” activities with the movements, and explore to bring them into the classroom or therapy setting
- come away with tools and techniques they can use right away with children to develop the physical skills for reading, writing, focus, and more.

Presenter Information:

Kathy Brown is a licensed Brain Gym® instructor with 23 years experience as a K-6 educator, offers Brain Gym workshops for schools and agencies throughout Arizona.

Contact Information: kb@centeredge.com www.centeredge.com

Getting It All Finished: Finding the Time for Assessment and Individualization (2-Part)

Presenter: Kay M. Albrecht, Ph.D.

Audience: Pre-kindergarten and Kindergarten

Description:

This interactive session combines theory and practice to help you find the time for authentic assessment and curriculum modification. A simulation will walk you through using authentic assessment data (observations, notes) to modify curriculum, teaching strategies, and the learning environment, saving you hours of time to devote to more meaningful teaching.

Participant Outcomes:

Participants will use authentic assessment data (observations, notes) to modify curriculum, teaching strategies, and the learning environment. The result will be increased individualized instruction that supports children's acquisition of standards-based knowledge and skills.

Presenter Information:

Kay M. Albrecht has been a teacher of young children, the director of a nationally accredited early childhood program, on the faculty at 4 universities, and the

author of the Innovations series of curriculum, development, and training materials.

Contact Information: innovations-ka@comcast.net

Autism – What it Looks Like and What Do I Do? (2-Part))

Presenter: Jennifer Fay

Co-Presenter: Kathryn Cumard – Speech Language Pathologist/ Autism Consultant

Audience: All

Description:

Using two 90-minute sessions participants will be able to more effectively program for students with ASD. The sessions will focus on using observation of characteristics of ASD to drive interventions to meet the needs of their students.

Participant Outcomes:

Participants will:

- Learn characteristics of ASD.
- Enhance the participant's observation skills.
- Use the characteristics of ASD to develop educational strategies that will meet those needs.

Presenter Information:

Jen Fay MA, CCC- SLP/Kathryn Cumard, MS, CCC-SLP: Autism consultants that have over 35 years of experience with working with families and students, developing programs, & providing training to staff, administrators and providers.

Contact Information: jenfay@cox.net

Intentional Instruction: How to Teach and What to Teach in Early Childhood Classrooms

Presenter: Vicki L. Gibson, Ph.D.

Co-Presenter: Deb Steinbacher

Audience: Appropriate for all audiences: parents, teachers, paraprofessionals, administrators, PreK-early elementary

Description:

This session demonstrates how intentional instruction may be used in learner-friendly ways to help children develop skills in listening, vocabulary and language development, and literacy using American Sign Language, English and Spanish. The session is fun and interactive as participants learn how to teach and what to teach young children.

Participant Outcomes:

Participants will learn how to:

- Integrate American Sign Language, English, and Spanish to develop multilingual vocabularies and word meanings,
- Integrate art experiences to explicitly teach pre-writing skills and print awareness,
- Develop skills for listening and following directions, developing listening comprehension, and
- Use intentional instruction to teach phonological awareness and early phonics skills.

Presenter Information:

Vicki Gibson, has been teaching in early childhood education for more than 33 years and has owned 3 preschools serving children ages 2 - 1 years. Dr. Gibson works at district, state, and national levels training teachers, paraprofessionals, parents, coaches, and administrators in instructional methodology, or how to teach using best practices for early childhood and reading instruction. She participated in the AZ Early Childhood Conference last year and spoke at numerous conferences annually as a keynote or session presenter.

Deb Steinbacher has been teaching early childhood and elementary students for 30+ years in public and private organizations. She is a national consultant that helps educators

improve teaching and instructional effectiveness at the early childhood and elementary levels.

Contact Information: vickigibson@earthlink.net

Building Relationships with Culturally Diverse Families

Presenter: Avis Macktima

Co-Presenters: Clemenston Lomayestewa, Marvella Adson, Elsie Tracy

Audience: Preschool, Special Education, Kindergarten

Description:

The workshop will address open mindedness and life learning attitudes when working with others of another culture. We will look at using humor, self

reflection and intentional relationship building with families from diverse backgrounds.

Participant Outcomes:

Participants will:

- Have an understanding of cultural perspectives which may influence learning and relationship building of the child and family
- Reflect on individual attitudes that are helpful in building positive relationships
- Develop an understanding and appreciation for the families they serve

Presenter Information:

Avis Macktima, M.Ed., is an early childhood educator on the Navajo and Hopi Reservations. Early training was influenced by training sites at Pacific Oaks, California and the Early Learning Center in Worcester, Mass. As a CDA Representative, she has had the opportunity to travel to day care homes and preschools in the South and West Coast areas.

Contact Information: amacktima@tcusd.org

“More Than Just the Facts: Making Non-Fiction Fun!”

Presenter: Conrad Storad

Audience: All

Description:

Award-winning children’s author Conrad J. Storad provides his unique perspective on presenting non-fiction stories to young readers. The session is a beginner’s guide for teachers and parents who work with young readers or pre-readers, both the enthusiastic and the reluctant variety. Session includes short writing exercise.

Participant Outcomes:

Participants will learn:

- some of Storad’s active learning methods for getting young readers “turned on” to non-fiction
- how to present factual material in an entertaining manner (using puppets, props, etc) for pre-readers and young readers
ages 4 to 8

Presenter Information:

Conrad J. Storad is the author of 25 non-fiction science and nature books for young readers. He was named Arizona's Children's Author of the Year in 2001 by the Arizona Library Association.

Contact Information: cstorad@asu.edu or cstorad@cox.net

Interactive Writing – Developing Children's Understanding of the Writing Process

Presenter: KC Colville

Audience: Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten

Description:

This session is intended to help Pre-K and Kindergarten teachers develop children's understanding of the writing process. It provides learners with a structured format for teaching letters, letter formations, how words work, and concepts about print and written language functions. It will change how you teach children to write forever!

Participant Outcomes:

Learners will leave session:

- Developing a writing purpose with students
- Knowing necessary tools & materials
- Knowing management tips.
- Understanding types of writing lessons

Presenter Information:

KC Colville spent three years as a Reading Recovery Teacher, then four years in Kindergarten. Her first year in Kindergarten was alongside a literacy coach. She was coached daily in all components of the literacy block. Currently, she is working as a Literacy Specialist.

Contact Information: kcolville@savechildren.org

Producing Real and Lasting Learning: Using Curriculum Planning to Make Time for Intentional Teaching (2-Part)

Presenter: Kay M. Albrecht, Ph.D.

Audience: Pre-kindergarten and Kindergarten

Description:

This interactive session combines theory and practice to help you make time for intentional teaching. Learn how to create curriculum plans that provide many opportunities for working with individuals and small groups. Designed for teachers who don't want to just teach to standards and know that meaningful content is motivational to learning.

Participant Outcomes:

Participants will take away a theoretical rationale and useful strategies for increasing intentional teaching by building a strong curriculum foundation based on children's interests. They will leave with ideas for building comprehensive curricula, individualizing, and increasing intentional teaching.

Presenter Information:

Kay M. Albrecht has been a teacher of young children, the director of a nationally accredited early childhood program, on the faculty at 4 universities, and the author of the Innovations series of curriculum, development, and training materials.

Contact Information: innovations-ka@comcast.net

Supporting Young Children with Special Needs in Language and Cognitive Development

Presenter: Jennings Prevatte, M.Ed.

Co-Presenter: Jennifer Matthews, M.Ed.

Audience: All, but primary focus is for preschool teachers

Description:

Participants will be engaged through an interactive format and have fun learning new strategies to support language and cognitive development in their classroom by incorporating a variety of techniques to support young children with special needs. This session will be based on a combination of theoretical and practical ideologies.

Participant Outcomes:

Participants will learn:

- How to meet the needs of all children using a Multi-Sensory approach
- Strategies and Modifications to Support Language and Cognitive Development
- Increase Learning and Engagement by Building a Strong Community in your Classroom

Presenter Information:

Jenning and Jennifer early childhood consultants for Sprouting New Beginnings are devoted to planting the seeds of early learning and reaching the whole child.

Contact Information: Jennings@sproutingnewbeginnings.com

When Running with Scissors is Their Best Option: Understanding the Why's and What to Do with Neglected and Traumatized Children (2-Part)

Presenter: Elizabeth Dunn, M.S., LPC

Audience: All

Description:

This presentation focuses on the effects of early childhood neglect/trauma on brain development as children are introduced to academic skills and classroom behavior expectations. Specific teacher interventions are provided to address lying, stealing, aggression, inattentiveness and other common management issues. In addition participants are guided through specific steps to apply interventions to their pre-school and early primary settings.

Participant Outcomes:

Participants will:

- identify level at which behavior management interventions need to occur
- design interventions specific to the student.
- identify emotional obstacles/responses to academic success.

Presenter Information:

Ms. Dunn recently began a teaching career after 16 years of working as a Child and Family Therapist. Ms. Dunn presents at statewide and regional conferences.

Contact Information: dunneaz2@yahoo.com

Incorporating American Sign Language to Support Reading and Writing in an Early Childhood Setting

Presenter: Jennings Prevatte, M.Ed.

Co-Presenter: Jennifer Matthews, M.Ed.

Audience: All, but primary focus is for Kindergarten teachers

Description:

Participants will increase their understanding of the connection between the reading and writing process and how to incorporate American Sign Language (ASL) as an effective strategy to support literacy, language acquisition, and cognitive and fine motor development in young children.

Participant Outcomes:

Participants will learn:

- How to Incorporate American Sign Language into a reading and writing curriculum
- How to Use American Sign Language as a bridge for Literacy Development
- How to meet the Needs of All Children using a Multi-Sensory approach

Presenter Information:

Jenning and Jennifer early childhood consultants for Sprouting New Beginnings and kindergarten teachers are devoted to planting the seeds of early learning.

Contact Information: Jennings@ sproutingnewbeginnings.com

Geoliteracy for Kindergarten

Presenter: Margarita Jimenez –Silva, Ed.D.

Audience: Kindergarten

Description:

Participants will learn about a curriculum developed by the National Geographic Alliance and sponsored in part by National Geographic Society which integrates AZ Geography Standards with AZ Language Arts Standards. Most lessons have also been adapted for English learners. Participants will receive a CD containing lesson plans and materials.

Participant Outcomes:

Participants will learn about a supplemental curriculum that develops students' knowledge of geography and language arts.

Participants will be actively involved in an interactive lesson that will help them understand how the curriculum can be used, especially with English language learners.

Presenter Information:

Margarita Jimenez-Silva is currently an assistant professor at Arizona State University and has previously directed an ECE program. Her work focuses on issues related to English language learners.

Contact Information: Margarita.Jimenez-Silva@asu.edu

OLEAS – A “How to” Session for Kindergarten

Presenter: Kelly Koenig

Audience: Kindergarten Teachers, Administrators, Coaches

Description:

Participant Outcomes:

Presenter Information:

Contact Information:

Beyond Parallel Play: Collaborating for Children's Success

Presenter: Valerie James

Co-presenter: Mark Nagasawa

Audience: All: general and special education preschool teachers, related services professionals, psychologists and administrators

Description: Collaboration between teachers and therapists is a great idea but can be hard to do. In this session you will practice a framework for collaboration and obtain specific tools for working together to maximize children's success.

Participant Outcomes:

Participants will work together to:

- learn the components of the collaborative consultation model
- identify solutions to problems and issues related to collaboration
- develop realistic plans to implement collaborative approaches

Presenter Information:

Contact Information:

Math and the Young Child

Presenter: Lynn Hawkins

Audience: All

Description:

Math lends itself especially well to hands on activities. Children develop mathematical skills through real world experiences and the manipulations of physical material.

Participant Outcomes:

Participants will learn:

- What components of math are appropriate for young children
- What learning materials/activities are developmentally appropriate?
- How to conduct observations and assessment while at play.

Presenter Information:

Lynn is an educational consultant for Discount School supply. She has presented at 200+ conferences over the last 9 years and draws on 12 years experience as a PK and K teacher and after school program coordinator.

Contact Information: lhawkins@discountschoolsupply.com

“NAC: An Accreditation Model for the 21st Century”

Presenter: Norm Ehmke, Ed.D.

Audience: Preschool owners, directors and staff looking for a user friendly format to achieve national accreditation

Description:

A lively and interactive discussion of the NAC accreditation process will help participants realize that there is a user friendly, cost effective and personal approach to achieving national accreditation. Participants will review the self-study materials, and learn how accreditation improves staff morale and the quality of child care.

Participant Outcomes:

Participants will understand NAC Standards, Accreditation rules and procedures; identify acceptable practices that demonstrate compliance with NAC Standards and recognize NAC as a viable process for recognition of quality Pre-K programs.

Presenter Information:

Dr. Norm Ehmke is a former public school educator and administrator; owner/director of nationally accredited early childhood education center; member of NAC Policy Board; Level VII S*CCEEDS trainer and presenter at state, regional and national conferences

Contact Information: nehmke@cableone.net

The Value of Incorporating Origami in the Curriculum

Presenter: Annapurna Ganesh, Ph.D.

Co-Presenter: Mrs. Jeneen Edgmon

Audience: Kindergarten

Description:

Come and learn the value of Origami. Origami can be easily incorporated into the classroom curriculum for building social skills, and being integrated in different subject areas. The theory of this integration will be shared through facilitated discussion. Participants will also engage in building some simple and advanced origami models.

Participant Outcomes:

Participants will have an understanding of the benefits of integrating origami into the classroom curriculum will be developed through this session. Participants will feel the success of building some simple and advanced origami models.

Presenter Information:

Dr. Ganesh is currently on faculty in the Early Childhood Education Department at Mesa Community College. Her experiences include teaching in the public school classroom and at the college level.

Contact Information: aganesh@mail.mc.maricopa.edu

Strike it Rich with Literacy!

Presenter: Judy L. Paris, M.Ed.

Co-Presenter: Nancy L. Campbell

Audience: Preschool and kindergarten (both special and general) teachers, administrators, therapists and parents

Description:

Spark a love for learning in young children that will lay a strong foundation in early literacy development and future academic achievement. Learning research based practices and instructional strategies that will engage young learners may be applied to any early childhood setting.

Participant Outcomes:

Participants will:

- gain ideas about teaching strategies and instructional activities for oral language, early reading and writing development.
- identify how to involve families in literacy development.
- learn techniques for establishing an effective literacy environment and implement useful and authentic assessments.

Presenter Information:

Judy L. Paris is certified: EC, special education, elementary, administration. She has authored education materials, been university faculty, been a curriculum writer and founder Children's Museum. Her conference presentations include U.S., Canada, and Europe. She was also an Arizona delegate Goals 2000.

Contact Information:

Science Inquiry in Kindergarten: The 5 E Model

Presenter: Karen Harman

Audience: Kindergarten Teachers

Description:

Teachers will participate in a 5 E scientific inquiry lesson that will be based on our articulated science standards and will integrate other content areas. Time will be provided for teachers to work collaboratively as they create a 5 E lesson incorporating a Physical or Earth and Space Science performance objective.

Participant Outcomes:

Participants will:

- Experience scientific inquiry
- Identify and explain the 5 components of a 5 E inquiry lesson
- Design a Scientific Inquiry lesson based on the 5 E model

Presenter Information:

Karen Harman, an early childhood educator for 30 years has experience teaching both kindergarten and preschool. Recent experience has been in the area of emergent literacy and interventions, working currently as a K-2 curriculum specialist. Presentations at local and state reading conferences and the kindergarten BER conference.

Contact Information: kharman@peoriaud.k12.az.us

Growing a Garden of Words: Intentional Instruction of Vocabulary

Presenter: Billie Enz, Ph.D.

Co-Presenter: Dawn Foley and Martha Cocchiarella

Audience: Pre-school with special education adaptations

Description:

As children acquire language, they are able to share with others what they feel, believe, and think. Helping young children learn essential and rare vocabulary is accomplished best through exciting content like science. This session explores the science of growing as a vehicle for acquiring new words and real-world knowledge.

Participant Outcomes:

Attendees will explore:

- hands-on, meaningful activities that help children learn new vocabulary through intentional instruction.
- ways to enrich curriculum with new vocabulary and how children learn new vocabulary.

Presenter Information:

Dr. Billie Enz is an international recognized expert and speaker in the areas of emergent literacy and first language acquisition.

Contact Information: Billie.enz@asu.edu

Reggio: The Power of Possibility

Presenter: Becky Hancock

Co-Presenter: Elisa Mongeluzzi

Audience: All

Description:

This interactive workshop includes a brief history and introduction to the Reggio philosophy. The training reviews the major elements of the Reggio approach, including Environment as the Third Teacher, the Power of Documentation, the Role of the Teacher and the Power of Partnership.

Participant Outcomes:

Participants will understand the basic philosophy of the Reggio movement. Participant will understand the impact of environment on the child. Participants will understand the role of documentation in the Reggio program.

Presenter Information:

Becky Hancock is the Program Coordinator with Child Care Resource and Referral. She has her BA and Master's in Early Childhood Education and has presented at state and national conferences. She has studied the Reggio philosophy in Reggio Emilia, Italy.

Contact Information: BhancockAasccaz.org

Literature Based Instruction: Using Popular Children's Books for Thematic Units

Presenter: Heather Balch

Co-Presenter: Jeana Wilcox, Nicole Parkinson, Jodie DeMets-Horn

Audience: Preschool (Both General and Special Ed), Kindergarten

Description:

Developing and providing literature-based instruction for Preschool through Kindergarten that targets the core domains of development. Aligning lesson plans and goals to the Arizona State Standards and incorporating different levels of learning. Using differentiated instruction and incorporating therapeutic interventions will lead to intentional instruction within early childhood classrooms.

Participant Outcomes:

The attendees will:

- understand how to use a literature-based lesson plan and incorporate the core domains of development.
- be able to create a thematic using a children's book.
- be able to develop an activity to target the three levels of development (sensorimotor, concrete, abstract).

Presenter Information:

Heather Balch is a Speech Language Pathologist. She graduated from Northern Arizona University in 2001 with a Masters of Science in Clinical Speech Pathology. She has been working with preschool-aged children for the past six years and has found early intervention to be her passion.

Contact Information: Heather.Balch@husd.org

Singing and Signing to Build Literacy Skills

Presenter: Annapurna Ganesh, Ph.D.

Co-Presenter: Mrs. Jeneen Edgmon

Audience: All

Description:

Music is an integral part of the early childhood curriculum. Singing and signing of some common songs will be a part of the presentation. The presentation will also include an interactive discussion about using singing and signing to build literacy skills and theoretical information about the benefits of singing and signing.

Participant Outcomes:

This presentation will help attendees understand the value of using songs and sign language to build literacy skills. Attendees will successfully be able to sign some common songs.

Presenter Information:

Dr. Ganesh graduated from Arizona State University with her doctoral degree in Early Childhood Education. She has experience as a public school classroom teacher and teaching college level courses at the university.

Contact Information: aganesh@mail.mc.maricopa.edu

A Double Hitter: Using your data from NAEYC Accreditation Self-Assessment process and your Assessment Visit for Strategic Planning and ECQUIP

Presenter: Karen McIlroy

Co-Presenter: Eleanor Droegemeier

Audience: Preschool teachers and Administrators

Description:

Preschool Coordinators from the Tucson Unified School District will share and explore strategies for using the NAEYC self assessment, summaries and Decision Reports for strategic planning for continuous program improvement and to inform the ECQUIP process.

Participant Outcomes:

Participants will:

- gain new strategies for analyzing NAEYC data to inform program improvement.
- use a sample form to do planning for their own program as part of the ECQUIP process.

Presenter Information:

Karen McIlroy and Eleanor Droegemeier worked together to coordinate the Tucson Unified School District's Early Childhood programs. Karen and Eleanor have successfully supported more than 60 programs through the NAEYC accreditation process.

Contact Information: Karen.mcilroy@tUSD1.org

Latino Parents' Beliefs About The Role of Preschool Education

Presenter: Norma Jimenez Hernandez, Ed.D.

Audience: Preschool

Description:

This session will help participants understand how Latino parents view the role of preschool education for their children. It draws on a study in which couples were asked why they chose to either enroll their children in preschool or keep them out as well as how they view the role of preschool in their child's education.

Participant Outcomes:

Participants will:

- gain a better understanding of how Latino parents view the role of preschool in their child's education.
- have an opportunity to discuss how to strengthen the home/school partnership.

Presenter Information:

Dr. Norma Jimenez Hernandez is an assistant professor at Claremont Graduate University. Her research focuses on Latino students and academic achievement.

Contact Information: Norma.Hernandez@cgu.edu

Promoting Bias-Free Early Childhood Environments

Presenter: Melissa Medvin

Co-Presenter: Miriam Weisman

Audience: All

Description:

In preventing prejudice/bias, preschool is the age to start. Incorporating anti-bias materials in early childhood environments promotes understanding and respect for diversity among young children. By using interactive activities and handouts, educators, caregivers and family members discover the value of anti-bias education as it relates to the early childhood setting.

Participant Outcomes:

Participants will:

- understand the importance of anti-bias education.
- learn how to foster healthy, pro-social behavior in children.

Presenter Information:

Melissa Medvin, education director for the Arizona Office of The Anti-Defamation League, facilitates anti-bias education programs for a range of audiences throughout the state.

Contact Information: mmedvin@adl.org

“CHARACTER IN MOTION” - Activities that promote the implementation of the Six Pillars of Character through physical activity

Presenter: Sue Mellen M.Ed, LPC

Audience: Kindergarten

Description:

This presenter will talk about and demonstrate a variety of strategies for integrating character based activities into the physical education curriculum. Activities use parachutes, beanbags, and other physical education equipment to promote positive character behaviors during physical education class time. Attendees will be provided demonstrations of and handouts for Health and Physical Education Standardized Activities.

Participant Outcomes:

Participants will:

- Learn hands-on strategies for promoting positive character based behavior while teaching physical education.
- be invited to participate in the activities and handouts for all activities will be provided.

Presenter Information:

Mrs. Mellen has been an Arizona Character Education Foundation liaison for seven years. She has presented her program "CHARACTER IN MOTION" to a wide variety of audiences throughout AZ. Her 27 years as a classroom and physical education teacher have provided her with a multitude of strategies for creating activities suitable for physical education, classroom and recess implementation.

Contact Information: mlnpatch@aol.com

From Inspiration to Instruction

Presenter: Elisa Mongeluzzi

Audience: Preschool

Description:

Over the years, many early childhood educators have been inspired by the philosophies of the Reggio Emilia Approach. This workshop strives to move inspiration into intention by exploring the role of the teacher in the early childhood classroom in Arizona, creating with repurposed materials and examining resources listed by NAREA (North American Reggio Emilia Alliance).

Participant Outcomes:

Teachers will be able to:

- Explain the Reggio Emilia Approach and why those of us who are not in Reggio Emilia, Italy do not "do" Reggio.
- Find inspiration in materials, which is translated to intentional teaching.

Presenter Information:

Elisa Mongeluzzi, M.Ed. has two decades of experience as an early childhood educator, director and trainer. Elisa is inspired by the children and families who have graced her life.

Contact Information: elisabellamia@yahoo.com

Making Your Classroom Inclusive through Art- "Opportunity for all Artists"

Presenter: Lynn Hawkins

Audience: All

Description:

Participants will experiment with art materials, tools and techniques that will help all of your children to participate, feel successful and have fun in the art activities in your classroom.

Participant Outcomes:

Participants will:

- Identify how the arts can help make all children feel included in classroom activities and not singled out.
- Learn how art activities help children reach important developmental goals in cognitive, physical and social developmental areas.

Presenter Information:

Lynn is an educational Consultant for Discount School Supply. She has presented at over 200+ conference during the last 9 years. Lynn draws on her 12 years experience as a PK & K teacher and after school coordinator.

Contact Information: lhawkins@discountschoolsupply.com

Getting It Together: Preschool to Grade 3 (2-Part)

Presenter: Dr. Joni Samples

Audience: All

Description: Participants will gain an overview of the process utilized by Murphy School District to develop their plan for Preschool through grade 2 collaboration, goal development, and implementation strategies.

Participant Outcomes:

Participants will:

- Learn how to communicate from different perspectives i.e. admin, teachers, preschool, elementary and parents regarding preschool to K-3 learning
- Learn how to meet needs and concerns of each group including meeting laws and regulations, planning and preparation for the ECQUIP process and developing common goals and outcomes leading to success for children
- Learn how to determine what your focus will be for your setting and move forward to collaborate now and in the future.

Presenter Information:

Dr. Joni Samples, former superintendent of schools preschool-12, author, and consultant has presented in many state and local conferences on preschool, K-12, and parenting issues.

Contact Information: drjoni@edsuccess.com

Ready, Set, Let's Play: Creating Language and Literacy Opportunities Through Dramatic Play

Presenter: Cathy Otto, M.A.

Co-Presenter: Deb Kendall, MS-CCC SLP

Audience: All

Description: Evidence-based research on dramatic play will be presented. Participants will view video examples of dramatic play "in action" in the classroom and have the opportunity to develop a "Dramatic Play Plan" in small groups, presenting their ideas to the entire group. Participants will practice what the teacher's role is in dramatic play.

Participant Outcomes: Participants will identify the importance of dramatic play as it forms a strong basis for facilitating 1) language (vocabulary), 2) social-emotional interaction between peers, 3) cognitive/problem solving skills, 4) culturally diverse experiences, and 5) emergent literacy skills.

Presenter Information: Cathy has been involved in early childhood programs for many years, including Program Manager for the Tempe Early Reading First Partnership at ASU and currently with the Mohave Desert Coalition Early Reading First.

Contact Information: cacotto@cox.net

"Bienvenidos" – Involving Mexican Families in Their Child's Education

Presenter: Hope Dillon

Audience: All

Description: This session will begin by assessing participants' knowledge of Mexican families' culture and values. We will talk about the growing population of Mexican children and the importance of understanding their culture. Participants will contribute to examples of best practices that welcome and

engage Mexican families and why this is a goal. There will be opportunities for small group, individual and whole group engagement and reflection. Participants will receive handouts with presentation notes and additional resources. The presentation will end with participants writing a commitment statement of what they plan to do to involve Mexican families.

Participant Outcomes: (1) Strengthen teachers' cultural understanding of Mexican families; (2) Provide strategies to involve Mexican families in their child's formal education.

Presenter Information: Hope Dillon conducts workshops for parents and teachers, leads a weekly parent group, mentors new teachers, and lives in a bilingual-bicultural household.

Contact Information: hedillon@mpsaz.org